

Murphreesboro Pike about two miles out of Nashville," Rutherford Co., Tennessee (in letter to Pilsbry).

plicata Wetherby, *Lithasia* 1876, Proceedings of the Cincinnati Soc. Nat. Hist. no. 1: 9, pl. 1, fig. 1 (Green River, Clay's Ferry, Jackson County, Kentucky). Nineteen syntypes CSNH (*teste* James, 1885). Syntype MCZ number 323752 from UMMZ 130661 with the locality corrected on label to Kentucky River, but the Kentucky River proper does not border on Jackson County) ex A. G. Wetherby, Bryant Walker collection. Charles M. Wheatley collection in ANSP (not found); MHNG, ex Brot collection (not found).

plicatastriata Wetherby, *Goniobasis* 1876, Proc. Cincinnati Soc. Nat. Hist. no 1: 10, pl. 1, fig. 3 (Stone River and Mill Creek, Rutherford County, and Sinking Creek, near Shelbyville [Bedford County]; *all* Tennessee). Three syntypes MCZ 88383 from Stone River, Rutherford County; Tennessee, ex Boston Society of Natural History; 3 syntypes MHNG ex Brot collection.

umbilicata Wetherby, *Anculosa* 1876, Proc. Cincinnati Soc. Nat. Hist. no 1:11, pl. 1 fig 4 (Stone River, Rutherford County, Tennessee). Six syntypes MCZ 136613, ex Boston Society of Natural History; 12 syntypes MHNG, ex Brot collection.

EARLIEST AMERICAN NATURAL HISTORY LITHOGRAPH

Richard I. Johnson

Charles-Alexandre Lesueur (1778-1849), French artist and naturalist, is best known to malacologists for having described the common Atlantic Coast squid, *Loligo peali* Lesueur, 1821, named for a son of Charles Wilson Peale. Having early shown remarkable sketching ability, Lesueur

accompanied Nicholas Baudin to Tasmania and Australia as an artist (1800-1804), but most of the drawings he made were never published. Lesueur met William Maclure in Paris during 1815, and accompanied him to the United States as a paid companion and naturalist. In Philadelphia, both became active in the Academy of Natural Sciences, founded in 1812. It was here that Lesueur met Thomas Say, "Father of American Conchology", whom he would later accompany to Robert Owen's settlement at New Harmony, Indiana.

Lithography had been invented by Alois Senefelder (1771-1834) in Munich. In 1798 he perfected his method of printing, based on the antipathy of grease and water. Polished marble is marked with a grease crayon, treated chemically, inked, sponged with water. So long as the stone is damp, the printers' ink adheres only to the greasy marks. This form of planographic printing was first used by Lesueur to illustrate two fish, published on a single folding plate (10) in *Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci.* 2 (1) Oct. 1821. Only three copies (and mine) are known. Apparently unsatisfied with his work, Lesueur, who since 1817 had been engraving copper plates to illustrate his own articles and those of other naturalists for intaglio printing, returned to his earlier method before many copies of the Journal were distributed. The following June, he produced two drawings on imported limestone, rather than on Kentucky marble. They were printed for the Journal in New York by Barnet and Doolittle, the first lithographic firm in the U. S. The year 1822 is generally regarded as the date for the first use in the U. S. of lithography for natural history illustrations.

Reference

- Weimerskirch, Philip J. 1985. Naturalists and the beginnings of Lithography in America. From: Linnaeus to Darwin: commentaries on the history of biology and geology. Society for the History of Natural History, London. Special Publications 3: 167-177.